

BJELETICH

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March 26, 1999

Dockets Management Branch (HFA-305)
Food and Drug Administration
5630 Fishers Lane, rm. 1061
Rockville, MD 20852

Re: FDA-Docket No. 98N-1265

To Whom It May Concern:

I have Celiac Disease, a non-contagious auto-immune condition that causes me to become ill if I eat anything containing or derived from wheat, oats, barley, rye or malt.

Many over the counter and prescription medications contain ingredients which are harmful to me, including excipients, such as stabilizers, preservatives, colorings, flavorings, sweeteners, binders, dilutants, disintegrants, lubricants, coatings, additives and inert agents. If I need an over the counter or prescription medication, I must do extensive research to see if it contains anything harmful to me. Many times there isn't a product available commercially, and so I have to have a product custom made. Stokes Pharmacy, in New Jersey, is one place where I can get a custom replacement for a product that would otherwise be harmful to me. Of course, Stokes must then ship my prescription from New Jersey to California.

If the subject restriction were implemented, then a safe source of both over-the-counter and prescription medications will be denied to me. More importantly, these sources will be denied to the thousands of other people who have dietary restrictions and allergies.

Please consider these issues when you take on the issue of restricting interstate shipping of compounded prescription medications, and understand that I and many like me rely on these services every day.

Sincerely,

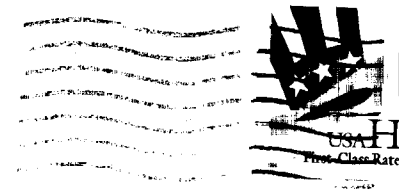


Elissa D. Bjeletich

98N-1265

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